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GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL START GAS PRICE INVESTIGATION
Price Spike Demands Action

PHOENIX – An investigation into Arizona's gasoline prices, which have soared higher than prices in California and other neighboring states, was announced today by Gov. Janet Napolitano and Attorney General Terry Goddard.

The state will use its powers under Arizona's Anti-Trust Act to issue Civil Investigative Demands to selected gasoline retailers, wholesalers and others with information about pricing in the chain of distribution.

"It doesn't make sense that Arizona's prices should suddenly jump up higher than California's," said Governor Napolitano. "Arizonans deserve real answers."

Arizona's average price per gallon for regular has risen from \$2.82 to \$3.10 in the past week. The state's gas prices are usually around 20 cents a gallon lower than prices in California, but this week they have been running 4 to 5 cents higher.

"Arizona's skyrocketing gas prices are not only painful at the pump but highly suspicious," Goddard said. "This inquiry will help us determine if they can be attributed to market forces or to predatory pricing. Whenever our prices exceed California's, the source of most of the state's supply, alarm bells sound. We want to know what accounts for it."